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In th Claims

CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) A device for mounting an optical element, for example a lens element in a lens, especially in an exposure lens in micro lithography, ~~having~~ comprising the following features:

a) the optical element is provided in its edge zone with support points,
b) counterbearing points are disposed opposite the support points of the optical element in an outer mounting,

c) bearing members are disposed between the support points and the counterbearing points, ~~and~~

d) the bearing members are provided with spherical surfaces directed toward the support points, wherein the optical element freely rests upon the bearing members, and

wherein the support points, the counterbearing points and the bearing members form a three-point bearing with a planar support, a groove-shaped support and a fixed-point support.

2. (Original) The device as claimed in claim 1, wherein the edge zone of the optical element with the support points possesses a at least approximately flat surface.

Claim 3 (Canceled)